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great scheme of pushing the work of educating in peace principles the boys and girls in our public schools.

RUTH H. SPRAY.

SALIDA, COLORADO.

*Editor of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE:*

In an article which you published two or three months ago, I expressed my regret that it was almost impossible to find a school history which did not glorify war and subordinate all the events which it recorded to military occurrences. A reader of the *ADVOCATE* wrote to me calling my attention to the school histories of Prof. Allen C. Thomas of Haverford College, Pa., and I have since procured them, one for middle grades and one for upper grades. I would like to direct the attention of your readers particularly to his larger "History of the United States," for the higher grades. For, while it does not depart sufficiently from the prevailing standards to offend old-fashioned boards of education, it occasionally allows the truth to show itself between the lines. For instance, in a note it quotes General Grant's opinion of the Mexican War, namely, that it was "one of the most unjust ever waged by a stronger against a weaker nation." It shows that the moral tone of the country was lowered as a result of the Civil War, and it presents, as a historical fact, the criticisms made by anti-imperialists against the Spanish and Philippine Wars. This is a good beginning, and deserves the support of all lovers of peace. I suggest that we bring this history to the notice of school principals and trustees wherever the opportunity may present itself. It is published by D. C. Heath & Co. of Boston and forms an admirable substitute for the ordinary collections of blood-and-thunder fables which masquerade under the title of American History in our schools, and which are, in fact, rather hysterical than historical.

Yours truly,

ERNEST H. CROSBY.

RHINEBECK, N. Y.

### The British Friends and the Prime Minister.

A very interesting correspondence has taken place between the British Friends' Yearly Meeting and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman on the subject of reduction of armaments. The recent Yearly Meeting sent, through its Clerk, Henry Lloyd Wilson, the following address to the new Prime Minister:

"In considering the subject of peace, we have taken note, with thankfulness, of the utterances of the Prime Minister and other members of the government in favor of a reduction of our military and naval expenditure, and we desire to express our earnest wish, first, that some substantial reduction in this expenditure may be carried out with as little delay as possible, and, second, that the government may secure the introduction into the program of the forthcoming Hague Conference of the subject of the limitation of armaments.

"We believe that the evidence of increasing goodwill between the nations, and the proved capacity of the arbitral methods established by the Hague Convention to resolve questions of great international delicacy, as

also the appalling revelation of what modern war involves afforded by the Russo-Japanese conflict, make the present an opportune time for endeavoring by friendly agreement to relieve the crushing burden of armaments. We are convinced that the cultivation of goodwill between nations and the steadfast adherence to the policy of brotherliness and justice will more and more be recognized as the surest national defense, and that the policy of huge armaments is subversive of these natural relations of friendship, and often proves a direct provocation to war."

To this address the Prime Minister's Secretary sent the following cordial and sympathetic reply:

*To the Secretary of the Society of Friends:*

*Sir:* The Prime Minister desires me to thank you for the minute of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, in which the earnest wish of the meeting is expressed that some substantial reduction in military and naval expenditure may be carried out with as little delay as possible, and, further, that the government may secure the introduction into the program of the forthcoming Hague Conference of the subject of the limitation of armaments.

In view of the opinions expressed by the Prime Minister and his colleagues, it is hardly necessary to repeat that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman is in complete and cordial sympathy with these objects, towards the realization of which His Majesty's government are taking all the steps that lie in their power.

The Prime Minister is glad to know that in their endeavors to promote peace and goodwill among the nations the government will have the coöperation of an agency so powerful for good as that of the Society of Friends. I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

VAUGHAN NASH.

10 DOWNING STREET, WHITEHALL, S. W.,  
MAY 31, 1906.

### Mr. Carnegie on Reduction of Armaments.

The *Tribune* publishes an interesting interview with Mr. Carnegie on his recent arrival in London, from which we extract the following passage:

"*Question:* The *Tribune* has been fighting to have the question of armaments, in which we know you are interested, brought before the second Hague Conference. Do you favor the idea of a second Peace Crusade for this purpose, and would you be willing to help by coöperating in the United States? And also, perhaps, by paying a visit to us over here and appearing upon European platforms in support of the movement?"

"*Answer:* I am delighted with the Prime Minister's position on this question, and am certain President Roosevelt would play a prominent part, as he did between Russia and Japan, if opportunity offered. Congress approved this session building only one battleship, needed to keep the present fleet efficient. This is now the policy of the United States — I think one hundred